


Our Lady of the Valleys Parish



Parish Priest Father Tony Kearns
Church Our Lady of Grace Church, 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga (HTG)
 St Francis Xavier Church, 152 Stokes Valley Road. Stokes Valley (SV)
Sunday Eucharist Sat 5:30 pm Vigil (SV) 8:30 am (SV) and 10:30 am (HTG)
 Tuesday / Thursday 9:30 am (Stokes Valley)
Weekday Eucharist Wednesday /Saturday 9:00 am (Heretaunga)
 Friday 9:30 am (Heretaunga)
Adoration of Blessed Sacrament Friday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm (Heretaunga)
Reconciliation By appointment with Parish Priest
Presbytery and
Parish Office 5 Palmer Crescent Tel (04) 972 4282
Parish Administrator Heretaunga
 Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Website www.olv.org.nz E-mail office@olv.org.nz pp@olv.org.nz
St Brendan's School 56 Palmer Cres Tel (04) 939 1909
Newsletter [St Brendan's School Newsletter, 27 June, Term 2 2023](#)

15 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		YEAR A READINGS	16 th July 2023
16 th July	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Isaiah 55: 10-11 Romans 8: 18-23 Matthew 13: 1-23	
23 rd July	1 st Reading 2 nd Reading Gospel	Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19 Romans 8: 26-27 Matthew 13: 24-43	

EVENTS THIS WEEK			
Wed 19 th July	11.00 am	Anointing Mass in the Pettit Centre	
Thurs 20 th July	1.30 pm	Anointing Mass at Stokeswood Rest Home, SV	
	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	

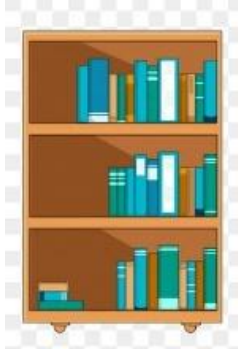
Please NOTE there will be **NO** Mass at 9.00am at OLOG on 19th July and at 9.30am on 20th July at SFX as this is replaced by the Anointing Mass.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED URGENTLY

Our Lady of Grace Church, Heretaunga
CAFE VOLUNTEERS, CLEANERS, Altar Society (flower arrangements and brass polishing)
St Francis Xavier, Stokes Valley
 Eucharistic Ministers.



Please contact the office on 9724282 if you can help out.



LENDING LIBRARY

We would like to offer a lending library of novels, books magazines etc in the Pettit Centre. If anyone has a suitable bookcase that is spare we would be willing to take it off your hands and place it in the Pettit Centre. Contact the Parish Office.

PARISH LUNCH

The Parish lunch last Sunday was an enormous success. The food was outstanding as usual and the company was great. Fun and laughter flowed freely and a fantastic time was had by all.



THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Jesus uses parables to make people think about their own responses to his message. As you read this parable you may recognize that at different times you have been like each of the different types of soil. As you recall times when you presented fertile soil for the word of God, what helped you create that receptive atmosphere? What lessons for life do you get from that?



The parable is also an invitation to us to ask ourselves why it is that there are times when we are unreceptive to a truth presented to us either in the word of God, or in the words of another. Perhaps you can recall occasions when it was only long after a conversation that you were able to acknowledge what has been an unwelcome truth. What did you learn from this?

Parents with children, teachers with pupils, speakers with listeners, are all like sowers in a field where the preparation of the soil is up to another – the child, pupil or listener. They can sow the seed but cannot guarantee that it will bear fruit. At times there may be a temptation not to try any more. The challenge is to sow in hope. When have you been surprised by the harvest you have reaped?

'We are wasting our time here' may sometimes be the apparent wisdom in a group. Have there been times when you have gone against this apparent wisdom and seen your efforts bear fruit?



PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – DATE CLAIMER

The 2023 Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Sunday 6th August at 12:00 noon in the Pettit Centre. Please mark this date. It is a chance to celebrate the wonderful ways the mission of

Jesus is working in our Parish, the election of new Parish Councils and a chance to bring ideas and issues to the attention of the various parish organisations and committees. Our Annual Report to the Parish is available on our webpage <https://olov.org.nz/publications/olov-annual-report/> or printed copies are available in the foyer of both churches.



LIVING STONES PROCESS - "One Parish - One Community"

Recent newsletters have had items from the Living Stones Group.

To re-invigorate reflections, prayer and conversations about the future of Parish assets the group would like YOUR feedback on a series of questions

These questions while posed now will be given a public forum at **TWO MEETINGS OF THE PARISH**

- ❖ **This Sunday 16th July at 9:45 am** in the Koraunui Marae hall at the rear of our Stokes Valley site (the old St Francis Xavier Church)
- ❖ **Next Sunday 23rd July at 11:45 am** in the Pettit Centre at the Heretaunga site

Opportunities will be given at both these meeting for attendees to express hopes and aspirations, their concerns and issues relating to the property holdings in the Parish. This is a step along the way to see where and what the Parish's future development might look like.

The key questions at the meeting will focus on

- ❖ What are the treasures we currently have across the Parish?
- ❖ What are the treasures we lack across the Parish?
- ❖ How do you see the needs of the Parish in 15-years' time and the resources/properties to ensure a nurtured faith?
- ❖ Of those resources/properties identified, what do you think should be the highest priority?

If you would like to provide a direct response to these questions please either follow the link <https://forms.gle/h3PTJ5ikRS5hMPmH9> to the online form; got to www.olv.org.nz clicking the link on the home page or emailing comments to livingstones@olv.org.nz

Fr Tony, Julie Stewart, Seu Sio, Pat Hault, Tino Aukusitino, Chris Henley, Conor Healy.

PARISH KEYS AND SECURITY

We are doing a checklist of keys loaned out. If any of you have Parish keys that you no longer need please do return them to the Office as we can then give them out to people who do require them.





NOMINATION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS AT 2023 AGM

With an eye of the upcoming Annual General Meeting on 6th August 2023, a number of current Parish Councillors' term of appointment have come to an end. Currently Parish Councillors stand for a two-year term with the right of renewal for two more terms.

We are therefore opening nominations for new Parish Councillors from 9th July 2023. From this weekend nomination forms are available in the foyer of both churches. These should be filled in and returned back to the Parish Office by Friday 29th July. This time frame allows time for the nominated candidates' names to be advised to the Parish before the Annual General Meeting.

Please take the time to prayerfully discern who you think might be a suitable person to serve our Parish on the Parish Council. If you would like more details on the role of Parish Councillors and the function of the Parish Council please feel free to speak to one of the existing Parish Councillors or Father Tony.



ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

Is a weekend experience for couples intending to be married. Weekends for 2023 are on 19 & 20 August, and 25 & 26 November at Otari Parish presbytery, 301 Karori Road. Registrations close 2 weeks before. For more details go to the website <http://www.ceewellington.co.nz>

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER all who are sick and unwell, those affected by the COVID-19 virus, and those who are lonely. We pray also for those who have died recently, including Wayne O'Connor and Robert Eynon. We pray also for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.



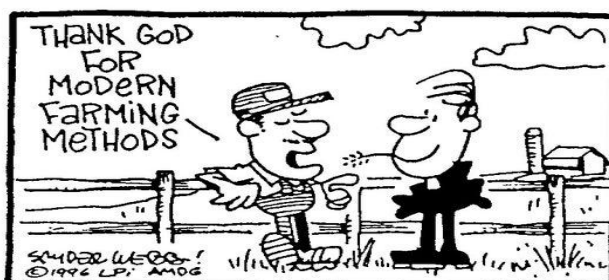
WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

What did Jesus mean by the peace he offered as distinct from the peace that the world offers?



On the eve of his suffering Jesus spoke of peace, an, inner strength drawn from his union with the Father in all things. The peace that the world gives depends on favourable outer circumstances such as the absence of conflict, anxiety or pain. The peace that Jesus gives is an inner strength that is not shaken by suffering or opposition. It is a peace that comes from faith and from total trust in God's love.

15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



FOR THE YOUNG ONES

GROWING

WITH THE *Gospel*

CYCLE A



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



15th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 13:1-23

PUZZLE FOR YOU

The Parable of the Sower

But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. Matthew 13:23a

Based on Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (NIV)



A D N B L P W W C F V B B H L
 P L H M S E E D I H A R U R G
 R Q D G R A S D O T O R M V G
 O W X G P V C T X I H K M L P
 O N V O J S A H B S V E E E B
 T E R E T D T O J O X J R D R
 P C G N W S T R U I X Y O R O
 F F A O I E E N V L K O F E M
 N L S N I Z R S W C G I K E C
 P P B I R D S O O S B Q L H Q
 K O W B Z P L R S C A B X T S
 P P J S D L Y T R O A E I R L
 C A R U A N A L X R F G J L T
 Z E T H C G T L A C V O E L M
 K Z S H W J R P W H M F Y Y Z

PLANTS	SCORCH	FARMER	THORNS	CROP
WITHER	BIRDS	ROOT	CHOKE	SOIL
FELL	PARABLE	SCATTER	SEED	GREW
ROCKY	SHALLOW	GOOD	SOW	PATH